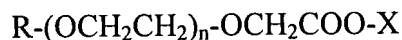


AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 1, 30, 44, 57, and 67 such that the status of the claims is as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A lubricant concentrate comprising an effective lubricating amount of at least one ether carboxylate and at least one defoamer, wherein said at least one defoamer is a C₉ to C₁₁ ~~alkoxylated~~ propoxylated alcohol.

2. (Previously Presented) The lubricant concentrate of claim 1 wherein said at least one ether carboxylate has the following general formula:



Where X is an alkali metal, amine, alkanolamine, either diamine, ammonium salt or H (free acid), and R is a linear or branched C₁₆-C₁₈ alkyl group.

3. (Original) The lubricant concentrate of claim 1 wherein said at least one ether carboxylate is a C₁₂ to C₁₈ ether carboxylate.

4. (Original) The lubricant concentrate of claim 1 wherein said at least one ether carboxylate is a C₁₆ to C₁₈ ether carboxylate.

5-8. (Canceled)

9. (Original) The lubricant concentrate of claim 1, said ether carboxylate having about 3 to about 20 moles ethoxylation.

10. (Original) The lubricant concentrate of claim 1, said ether carboxylate having about 5 to about 15 moles ethoxylation.

11. (Original) The lubricant concentrate of claim 1 wherein said ether carboxylate has 10 moles ethoxylation.

12. (Original) The lubricant concentrate of claim 1, said ether carboxylate having about 3 to about 20 moles ethoxylation.

13. (Original) The lubricant concentrate of claim 1, said ether carboxylate having about 2 to about 10 moles ethoxylation.

14. (Original) The lubricant concentrate of claim 1, said ether carboxylate having about 5 to about 15 moles ethoxylation and about 2 to about 10 moles propoxylation.

15. (Original) The lubricant concentrate of claim 1 wherein said ether carboxylate is present at a concentration of about 0.1 wt-% to about 75 wt-%.

16. (Original) The lubricant concentrate of claim 1, wherein said ether carboxylate is present at a concentration of about 0.25 to 50 wt-%.

17. (Original) The lubricant concentrate of claim 1, wherein said ether carboxylate is present at a concentration of about .5 wt-% to about 15 wt-%.

18. (Original) The lubricant concentrate of claim 1, wherein said ether carboxylate is present at a concentration of about .5 wt-% to about 15 wt-%.

19. (Previously Presented) The lubricant concentrate of claim 1, and further comprising at least one corrosion inhibitor, wherein said at least one corrosion inhibitor is selected from the group consisting of: an ether diamine, a dicarboxylic acid or salt thereof, at least one amine oxide, or mixtures thereof.

20. (Previously Presented) The lubricant concentrate of claim 19, wherein said corrosion inhibitor is an ether diamine having the following general formula:

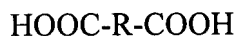


wherein R_1 may be a linear C_6 - C_{18} alkyl group, R_2 may be a linear or branched C_1 - C_8 alkyl group, and R_3 is a linear or branched C_1 - C_8 alkyl group.

21. (Previously Presented) The lubricant concentrate of claim 20, wherein said ether diamine is selected from the group consisting of isododecyloxypropyl-1,3-diamino propane, dodecyloxypropyl-1,3-diamino propane, tetradecyloxypropyl-1,3-diamino propane, isotridecyloxypropyl-1,3-diaminopropane and mixtures thereof.

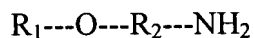
22. (Previously Presented) The lubricant concentrate of claim 20, wherein said ether diamine is a mixture of dodecyloxypropyl-1,3-diaminopropane and tetradecyloxypropyl-1,3-diaminopropane.

23. (Previously Presented) The lubricant concentrate of claim 19 wherein said corrosion inhibitor is a dicarboxylic acid or salt thereof having the following general formula:

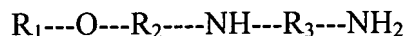


where R is an alkyl group having from about 1 to about 8 carbon atoms.

24. (Previously Presented) The lubricant concentrate of claim 23 further in combination with an ether amine or diamine having the following general formula:



and



and mixtures thereof, where R_1 is a linear C_6 - C_{18} alkyl group, R_2 is linear or branched C_1 - C_8 alkyl group, and R_3 is linear or branched C_1 - C_8 alkyl group.

25. (Original) The lubricant concentrate of claim 24 further comprising at least one phosphonated amine oxide.

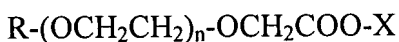
26. (Original) The lubricant concentrate of claim 1 further comprising at least one member selected from the group consisting of surfactants, hydrotropes, antimicrobial agents, viscosity modifiers, soil anti-redeposition agents, preservatives, dyes, fragrances, anti-foaming agents, soil suspension agents, solubilizing agents, penetrants, and mixtures thereof.

27. (Original) The lubricant concentrate of claim 1, further diluted with water to a concentration of about 0.1 wt-% to about 10 wt-% of said concentrate in water.

28. (Original) The lubricant concentrate of claim 1, further diluted with water to a concentration of about 0.4 wt-% to about 10 wt-% of said concentrate in water.

29. (Original) A lubricated conveyor or container, having a lubricant coating on a container-contacting surface of the conveyor or on a conveyor-contacting surface of the container, wherein the coating comprises the lubricant composition of claim 1.

30. (Currently Amended) An aqueous conveyor lubricant composition comprising from about 0.1 wt-% to about 50 wt-% of at least one ether carboxylate having the following general formula:



where X is an alkali metal, amine, alkanolamine, ether diamine, ammonium salt or H (free acid), R is a linear or branched C₁₆-C₁₈ alkyl group, and at least one foam destabilizer, wherein said at least one foam destabilizer is a C₉ to C₁₁ ~~alkoxylated~~ propoxylated alcohol.

31-34. (Canceled)

35. (Original) The aqueous conveyer lubricant of claim 30, said ether carboxylate having about 3 to about 20 moles alkoxylation.

36. (Original) The aqueous conveyer lubricant of claim 30, said ether carboxylate having about 5 to about 15 moles alkoxylation.

37. (Canceled)

38. (Original) The aqueous conveyer lubricant of claim 30 wherein said ether carboxylate has 10 moles of ethoxylation.

39. (Original) The aqueous conveyer lubricant of claim 30 comprising .5 wt-% to 15 wt-% of said ether carboxylate.

40. (Original) The aqueous conveyer lubricant of claim 30 further comprising at least one corrosion inhibitor.

41. (Original) The aqueous conveyer belt lubricant composition of claim 40, said at least one corrosion inhibitor is an ether diamine, a dicarboxylic acid or salt thereof, an amine oxide, or mixture thereof.

42. (Original) The aqueous conveyer lubricant of claim 30 further comprising at least one member selected from the group consisting of preservatives, surfactants, hydrotropes, antimicrobial agents, viscosity modifiers, soil anti-redeposition agents, dyes, fragrances, soil suspension agents, solubilizing agents, penetrants, and mixtures thereof.

43. (Original) The aqueous conveyer lubricant of claim 30 further diluted with water to a concentration of about 0.1 wt-% to about 10 wt-% of said lubricant in water.

44. (Currently Amended) A method of lubricating the interface between a container and a moving conveyor surface, the method comprising the steps of:

a) providing a lubricant composition comprising at least one ether carboxylate lubricant and at least one foam destabilizer, wherein said at least one foam destabilizer is a C₉ to C₁₁ ~~alkoxylated~~ propoxylated alcohol; and

b) applying said lubricant composition to said conveyor surface.

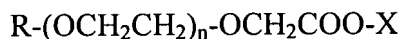
45. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 44 wherein said applying step comprises applying said lubricant composition to said conveyor surface by means of a plurality of spray nozzles spaced along said conveyor surface.

46. (Original) The method of claim 44 wherein said lubricant composition is in the form of a concentrate.

47. (Original) The method of claim 46 further comprising the step of diluting said concentrate with water at a ratio of about 1 to about 1000 parts water to 1 part concentrate.

48. (Original) The method of claim 46 further comprising the step of diluting said concentrate water at a ratio of about 1 to about 500 parts water to about 1 part concentrate.

49. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 44, said ether carboxylate having the following general formula:



where X is an alkali metal, amine, alkanolamine, ether diamine, ammonium salt or H (free acid), R is a linear or branched C₁₆-C₁₈ alkyl group, and at least one foam destabilizer.

50. (Canceled)

51. (Original) The method of claim 44, said ether carboxylate present at a concentration of about 0.5 wt-% to about 15 wt-%.

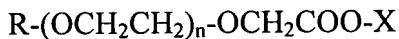
52-55. (Canceled)

56. (Original) The method of claim 44 wherein said lubricant composition further comprises at least one ether diamine, at least one dicarboxylic acid or salt thereof, or mixtures thereof.

57. (Currently Amended) A method of lubricating a conveyor system comprising the steps of:

- a) diluting a lubricant concentrate with water to form an aqueous lubricant use-solution comprising an effective lubricating amount of at least one ether carboxylate and foam destabilizer, wherein said foam destabilizer is a C₉ to C₁₁ ~~alkoxylated~~ propoxylated alcohol; and
- b) applying said lubricant use-solution composition to the intended surface of use.

58. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 57, said ether carboxylate having the following general formula:



where X is an alkali metal, amine, alkanolamine, ether diamine, ammonium salt or H (free acid) and R is a linear or branched C₁₆-C₁₈ alkyl group.

59-63. (Canceled)

64. (Original) The method of claim 57, said lubricant concentrate further comprising at least one corrosion inhibitor.
65. (Original) The method of claim 64, said corrosion inhibitor comprising at least one ether diamine, at least one dicarboxylic acid or salt thereof, amine oxide or mixtures thereof.
66. (Original) The method of claim 57 further comprising the step of diluting said lubricant concentrate with water to a concentration of about 0.1 to about 10 wt-% of said lubricant concentrate in water.
67. (Currently Amended) A method for lubricating a continuously-moving conveyor system for transporting packages, said conveyor system being wetted with an aqueous lubricant composition comprising at least one ether carboxylate lubricant and at least one foam destabilizer, wherein said at least one foam destabilizer is a C₉ to C₁₁ ~~alkoxylated~~ propoxylated alcohol.
68. (Canceled)
69. (Original) The method of claim 67 further comprising at least one corrosion inhibitor.
70. (Original) The method of claim 69, said corrosion inhibitor comprising at least one ether diamine, at least one dicarboxylic acid or salt thereof, amine oxide or mixtures thereof.